

Serial No.: 10/531,527
Examiner: Joy Kimberly Contee

REMARKS

Claim Status

Claims 1-6 and 19-23 are pending. Claims 7-18 are canceled.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-6 and 19-23 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Britt (6,226,517) in view of Joensuu (5,878,347). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the reasons stated below.

As stated in MPEP § 2143.01, to establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974).

As set forth above and incorporated herein above, Britt in view of Joensuu fails to disclose the triggering three queries and fails to disclose a central node in communication with HLRs with first and second tables accessible to the central node as is presented in the current version of the claims.

For example, in Joensuu, col. 6 lines 54 – col. 7 line 29, SMS signals are described as being routed by a GMSC 120 to a mobile station and voice calls are described as being routed by the GMSC 120 to a mobile station. However, and in one example only, there is no portion of Britt or Joensuu that teaches or suggests triggering a third query from the central node to the number portability database for the routing information *if the second query fails to provide the routing information*. Joensuu describes that if a “translation type assigned to the received data has a value of 10” then the “GMSC 120 routes the request signal to the centralized database 220 instead of the HLR 90a.” As can be seen, the routing in Joensuu is based on a translation type parameter and not if a second query fails to provide the routing information.

Further, the Examiner stated that “Joensuu discloses wherein the communication network includes a central node (reads on Gateway MSC). However, Joensuu describes that the GMSC

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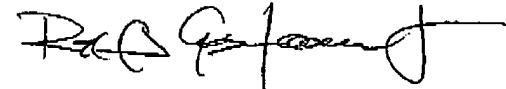
routes the request signal to the centralized database 220 which determines an HLR serving a mobile station. Such a database in Joensuu is not a number portability database.

Still further, and in one example only, there is no portion of Britt or Joensuu that describes a first table that contains location routing numbers, a second table that contains HLR information, and instructions for searching the first table for a second mobile station identifier that matches a first mobile station identifier and sending a query to a network entity identified by the associated location routing number if a match is found, and instructions for searching the second table for a second mobile station identifier that matches the first mobile station identifier and sending a query to the associated HLR if a match is found. The Examiner has not provided any portions of Britt or Joensuu that teach or suggest *each* of these limitations.

As such, it is believed that the Application is in condition for allowance; therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection of the claims as set forth in the Office Action, and full allowance of same. Should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 6/8/2008



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